

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please enter the attached corrected drawing Fig. 1, in which the legend of "Prior Art" is being added, to replace Fig. 1 as originally filed. A Letter to Draftsperson is also submitted herewith.

REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Official Action dated December 22, 2004. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due reconsideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

Status of the Claims

Claims 3-8, 10-19, and 21-79 are under consideration in this application. Claims 1, 2, 9 and 20 are being cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 6-8, 10-18, 26, 32, 38, 44, 50, 56, 62, 68 and 74 are being amended, as set forth in the above marked-up presentation of the claim amendments, in order to more particularly define and distinctly claim applicants' invention.

Additional Amendments

The claims, the title, and the drawings are being amended to correct formal errors and/or to better disclose or describe the features of the present invention as claimed. All the amendments to the claims are supported by the specification. Applicants hereby submit that no new matter is being introduced into the application through the submission of this response.

Formality Rejection

The Title of the Invention was objected to as being non-descriptive and the Examiner requested a new title. Fig. 1 was objected to for lacking proper labeling as "Prior Art". Claims 6, 10-14, 26-28, 31-34, 37-40, 43-46, 49-52 and 55 were objected to due to the recitation of "space" rather than "spacer" in claim 6. As indicated, the claims, the title, and the drawings have been amended as required by the Examiner. Accordingly, the withdrawal of the outstanding informality rejection is in order, and is therefore respectfully solicited.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3-8, 19, 21-25, 27-31, 33-37, 39-43, 45-49, 51-55, 57-61, 63-67, 69-73, 75-79 were allowed. Claims 10-18, 26, 32, 38, 44, 50, 56, 62, 68 and 74 would be allowed, if they are rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base and any intervening claims. As claims 10-18, 26, 32, 38, 44, 50, 56, 62, 68 and 74 are being rewritten in

independent form to include the limitations of their base claim and any intervening claims, they are now in condition for allowance.

Prior Art Rejection

Claims 1, 2, 9 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kusunoki et al. (5,936,257). Please see page 3 for details of this rejection. The prior art references of Kusunoki et al. (6,617,774; 6,316,873), Yoshikawa et al. (5,990,605), Iwasaki et al. (5,962,959), Huang et al. (5,702,281) and Hisatake et al. (5,699,135) were cited as being pertinent to the present application.

As claims 1, 2, 9 and 20 are being cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, the rejection thus becomes moot.

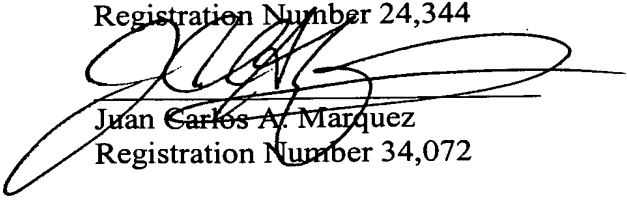
Conclusion

In view of all the above, clear and distinct differences as discussed exist between the present invention as now claimed and the prior art reference upon which the rejections in the Office Action rely, Applicants respectfully contend that the prior art references cannot anticipate the present invention or render the present invention obvious. Rather, the present invention as a whole is distinguishable, and thereby allowable over the prior art.

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the address and phone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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